

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of	)	Mail Stop: RCE
Brian R. STONER et al.	)	
Application No.: 09/817,164	)	Group Art Unit: 2879
Filed: March 27, 2001	)	Examiner: Karabi Guharay
For: Coated Electrode With Enhanced	)	Confirmation No.: 8176
Electron Emission And Ignition	)	
Characteristics	)	

**DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.131**

Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

I, Otto Z. Zhou, declare that:

1. I am a co-inventor of the subject matter disclosed and claimed in the above-referenced patent application.
2. The claimed invention was reduced to practice in the United States prior to the filing date of March 9, 2001, of the cited document U.S. Patent No. 6,448,701 to Hsu.
3. Attached Exhibit A is a redacted copy of paper co-authored by myself evidencing the reduction to practice of the invention. The paper describes experimental results completed and published prior to March 9, 2001, and corresponds to the invention broadly disclosed and claimed in the above-identified patent application.

4. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made upon information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 United States Code section 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

O. Z.

Otto Z. Zhou

Date: 3/1/4